



# Virginia Aviation

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## Keith Meurlin Retires from Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority

*28-Year Career at Dulles International Airport*

Keith Wood Meurlin has announced his retirement from the position of Vice President and Airport Manager of Washington Dulles International Airport. He will leave his position at the end of March.

"Keith has overseen a very challenging period of change and improvement at Dulles Airport over the years," said James E. Bennett, President/CEO of the Airports Authority. "His dedication and commitment to ensuring that Dulles kept pace with the tremendous growth in air service demand in our metropolitan region is appreciated by the aviation community as well as the many government and business officials he worked with over the years."

In making his announcement, Mr. Meurlin said, "I have decided after a very rewarding career with the Airports Authority, to retire. My thanks to all my co-workers who have done so much to support me and this organization and to make Dulles one of the best Airports in the country. I'm proud of what we have accomplished and what I know will be accomplished in the future."

As Airport Manager, Mr. Meurlin directed operations, maintenance,  
(see [Meurlin](#) cont. on Pg. 2)



## Governor Warner Names New Virginia Secretary of Transportation

Governor Mark R. Warner announced today that he has elevated Deputy Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer to serve as Virginia's Secretary of Transportation. Homer succeeds Secretary Whittington "Whitt" Clement, who earlier announced his plan to resign at the end of this month to return to the practice of law.

Prior to joining the Warner Administration in January 2002, Homer served as deputy county executive in Prince William County.

"Whitt Clement has been a strong partner as we have worked to restore fiscal discipline to our transportation program and improve the performance at VDOT, and I wish him well as he returns to the practice of law," Governor Warner said. "Whitt and Pierce have worked as a team to help find innovative solutions to Virginia's transportation challenges, including enhanced rail and mass transit options, airport improvements, and the use of public-private partnerships to build some critical highway projects. Pierce Homer is a creative thinker and a consensus builder - attributes that have become basically a job requirement in this role."

"Pierce Homer has worked hard on these challenges for three years as my Deputy Secretary, and  
(see [Secretary](#) cont. on pg. 7)

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(Meurlin cont. from Pg. 1)

and commercial activities at Dulles—which employs nearly 17,000 people and is one of the busiest in the country in terms of aircraft operations. During his tenure as Airport Manager, the Airports Authority has invested nearly \$1.5 billion in expanding the Airport facilities in the late 1990's and is currently undertaking an additional \$3 billion dollar construction program to keep pace with current and future growth.

Mr. Meurlin came to the Washington airports following his active duty in the United States Air Force in 1977. He began his service as an Airport Operations Officer and successively advanced through the organization in Engineering and Maintenance and Operations management positions before becoming the Airport Manager in 1989.

Mr. Meurlin has had extensive community involvement: he has served on the Board of Directors of the Greater Reston and the Loudoun Chambers of Commerce; Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Convention and Visitors Association; member of Leadership Fairfax; is on the Board of the United Way for both Loudoun County and the National Capital Area; and is the Past Chairman of the Heart Association of Northern Virginia.

He was also the recipient of the 2000 Citizen of the Year award from the Loudoun Rotary and the 2002 Tower of Dulles Award from the Committee for Dulles.

In addition to his service with the Airports Authority, Mr. Meurlin has continued his military service in the Air Force Reserve where he has attained the rank of Major General; the highest rank a traditional reservist can achieve.

### Chris Browne Named to Dulles Post

The Airports Authority has also announced the appointment of

Christopher U. Browne to the position of Vice President/Airport Manager for Dulles Airport. Mr. Browne joined the Airports Authority in 1988 after a career with the United States Navy as a Naval Aviator and is currently the Airport Manager of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, a position he has held since 1998.

Said James E. Bennett in making the announcement, "Chris has done a great job managing Reagan National, and I know he will bring these solid skills to his new job and will provide a smooth transition for Dulles Airport, our customers, employees and tenants."

In accepting his appointment, Mr. Browne said, "I've been very fortunate to spend the last seventeen years at Reagan National Airport where I've seen a great airport become even better. I want to thank the Airport staff and community and the Arlington and Alexandria leaders and organizations who have contributed so much to making Reagan National what it is today. I'm looking forward to having the same positive working relationships with the staff and community at Dulles."

Mr. Browne is a Certified Member of the American Association of Airport Executives and has participated in Leadership Arlington, served on the Arlington County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the recipient of the Virginia Airport Manager of the Year Award in 2002.



## Virginia Aviation Events

**May 21-22, Suffolk Executive Airport Fly-In.** Please contact Kent Marshall at (757) 923-2487 for more info.

**May 21, Franklin Municipal Airport Fly-In** will take place from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more info contact Jimmy Gray at (757) 562-8764.

**June 4, Young Eagles Flights** at New Kent County Airport. For more info contact Bill Kelly at (804) 932-3984.

**June 5-7, SATS Demonstration Event** will be held in Danville, Virginia. The Small Aircraft Transportation Systems (SATS) research project reaches its conclusion with a proof-of-concept demonstration. The culmination of a five-year public/private project, the concept demonstration will focus on four operating capabilities and their near-term enabling technologies that could affect how the airspace and the many small and underutilized airports in the United States are used.

**June 5, New London Fly-In** will be held at New London Airport in Forest, Virginia. An old-fashion fly-in and car show. Breakfast and lunch, air rides, kid's flour bomb drop, family fun events. For more info contact David Miller at (540) 525-2988 or [davidm@rev.net](mailto:davidm@rev.net).

**June 5, EAA Chapter 511 4th Annual Shenandoah Valley Poker Run.** Start at any of the participating airports (SHD, W13, W45, 8W2, FRR, CHO), buy your play sheet for \$5.00, draw a card at each airport, then play your hand at SHD at 3 p.m. for prizes. Start time is at the pilot's discretion. All passengers may play. Raindate June 12 (call FBOs to confirm). For more info call (540) 433-3309 or [www.geocities.com/ea511va](http://www.geocities.com/ea511va) or [zerog@velocitus.net](mailto:zerog@velocitus.net).

**June 11, Open House and Aviation Safety Seminars** will be held at New Kent County Airport. For more info contact Bill Kelly at (804) 932-3984.

Submit upcoming event information to :  
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## Goodyear in Danville to supply radials for Airbus

*Contract extension allows plant to continue to manufacture aviation tires*

Goodyear has extended a major multi-year contract for the supply of aviation tires to Airbus for six popular wide-body and single-aisle aircraft models.

Goodyear will supply Flight Leader aircraft tires for the Airbus wide-body A300 and 310 models, as well as Flight Radial and Flight Leader aircraft tires for the Airbus single-aisle A318, A319, A320 and A321 models, which it refers to as the A320 family.

Airbus, based in Toulouse, France, said the A320 family is the world's fastest selling jet line. Donald Roulett, global marketing manager for Goodyear, said, "This contract is significant, because the A320 family lands more frequently on radial aviation tires than any other segment of the jet transport business.

"We expect to fit Goodyear Flight Radials on a majority of Airbus jets in the A320 family," he continued. "This supply arrangement with the aircraft manufacturer allows us to broaden Goodyear's presence globally with aircraft-proven radial tires.

"The broad range of Airbus models also positions Goodyear to expand and upgrade its product and

service offerings in the replacement market, as well," Roulett said.

Only a handful of tire manufacturers can satisfy the performance demands posed by Airbus and its customers. "Our tires must withstand the stress of repeated takeoffs and landings and the huge loads of large aircraft. Thus, aircraft tires have become a showcase for Goodyear's substantial technological capabilities," he added.

Major airlines – such as Lufthansa, Air Canada, Mexicana, All Nippon Airways, Aeroflot and Jetstar – operate their Airbus A320 family aircraft on Goodyear Flight Radial aviation tires, Roulett said.

Goodyear will supply new tires for Airbus from its manufacturing facilities in Danville, Va., and Bangkok, Thailand. Aviation tires are retreaded at Goodyear service centers in Tilburg, Netherlands; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Stockbridge, Ga.; Kingman, Ariz.;

Melbourne, Australia; and Bangkok, Thailand.

The tire supply contract is between Airbus France and Goodyear Nederland B.V., a Dutch (Tilburg) company.

A leading aircraft manufacturer with the most modern and comprehensive product line, Airbus is a global company with design and manufacturing facilities in France, Germany, the United Kingdom and Spain as well as subsidiaries in the United States, China and Japan. Airbus is a joint venture between European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company (EADS) and BAE Systems.



**Goodyear Danville manufacturing facility.**



# Virginia Regional EAA Fly-in Moves to October

The Virginia Council of EAA Chapters decided to move the 2005 fly-in held annually since 1997 at the Dinwiddie County Airport to the weekend of October 1-2. Major



considerations for this change were other competing events, both in Virginia and nationally, which would adversely affect the number of potential vendors as well as the attending public. Unfortunately the date change does not preclude a third year of being severely impacted by a hurricane, but the Council certainly hopes this to be a lucky year with excellent weather. If indeed the weather cooperates, the event should attract more than the previous high of 630 aircraft and 4500 attendees.

Judy Sparks, Fly-in Manager since the event's inception, is currently signing up flying acts for the 1-3 PM daily air show. Elsie Benson, Chairman of the Pancake

Breakfast Committee, is retiring after performing her duties magnificently since the very first Virginia EAA Fly-in. With her detailed operational notebooks for excellent guidance, Roger Hoover, who has stepped in to oversee presentation of the 8-11 AM pancake breakfasts, is looking for eager helpers.

Dee Whittington is signing up forum presenters to fill the forum tents with timely and informative sessions for fly-in attendees. He is particularly looking for speakers to cover aspects of ultralights, powered parachutes and the new Sport Pilot-Light Sport Aircraft areas. He requests input as to what topics or specific speakers you would like to hear.

In two returning workshops, Butch Walsh will demonstrate his vast knowledge of Tube and Fabric techniques and Dave Chamberlain will lead participants in hands-on Sheet Metal Riveting practice. If you

are planning or are already involved in homebuilding projects which involve either of these skills, be sure to participate in these workshops.

The Youth Tent as well as the popular Control Line Model Flying Circle will be offered at the 2005 Fly-in. The Virginia Regional EAA Fly-in is becoming known as a leader in



hands-on activities for young people. We again anticipate help from NASA Langley in these projects.

As the Virginia Regional EAA Fly-in continues to grow, it even more depends on a large number of

volunteers. Volunteering for a minimum of four hours during the weekend is a rewarding way of promoting Sport Aviation. We urge you to log onto the fly-in web site: [www.vaeaa.org](http://www.vaeaa.org) and click on "Volunteers". There you can quickly fill out the volunteer form. If you don't have web access, just give me a call. You'll be glad you did.



## Corporate Angel Network Pilot Volunteers Needed

*Going their way? Give a cancer patient a lift.*

Do your corporate jets ever fly an empty leg? Do your planes ever take-off with a seat or seats to spare? How about volunteering those seats to cancer patients traveling to or from treatment centers, if you happen to be going their way? Five hundred top corporations

have already answered "Yes!" to these questions. They became participants in Corporate Angel Network (CAN), and you can too.

CAN makes it easy. Using a proprietary and secure computer program, CAN volunteers match flights

to patient requests, do all the paperwork and make all the arrangements. Call (914) 328-1313 for more info. For a current list of patient "rides needed," please visit:

[www.corpangelnetwork.org/corporate/seats](http://www.corpangelnetwork.org/corporate/seats).

## TSA Adds Lighters to List of Items Prohibited Beyond Airport Checkpoints

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recently announced that all lighters will be prohibited from sterile areas of airports and onboard aircraft. This action is in response to a provision in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which was signed into law by the President on December 17, 2004, and requires that "butane" lighters be added to TSA's Prohibited Items List.

After carefully evaluating the security threat, Congressional intent and operational considerations, TSA determined that passengers should be prohibited from carrying all lighters on their person or in carry-on luggage in the sterile areas of airports or onboard an airplane. The policy will be fully enforced beginning April 14, 2005.

"TSA is moving to implement this provision passed by Congress," said Rear Adm. David M. Stone, USN (Ret.), Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for TSA. "By creating policy to add lighters to the Prohibited Items List we are closing a potential vulnerability in air travel security."

The agency also acknowledged the role passengers play in making the security process go more smoothly.

"Travelers are a valuable partner in the screening process," said Rear Adm. Stone. "If they pack smart and avoid bringing lighters to the checkpoint, passengers can accelerate the screening process and allow us to focus on those individuals and items that may be a threat to their flight."

All lighters will be banned from sterile areas beyond security checkpoints at airports. This includes, for example, butane, absorbed-fuel

## William Knott Honored for Service to Dinwiddie Airport and Industrial Authority

At its meeting on March 1, 2005 the Dinwiddie Airport and Industrial Authority, sponsor of the Dinwiddie County Airport, honored Mr. William C. Knott on the occasion of his departure from the Authority after more than 18-years of continuous service. Mr. Knott was first appointed to the Authority in July, 1986, only six years after the Authority was formed by the General Assembly of Virginia, and served until January 31, 2005. At his departure he had served longer than any other member in the history of the Authority.

Mr. Knott served several terms as Chairman of the Authority and was a strong advocate for improvements and progress at the airport. During his tenure he helped plan for, and oversee the construction of, 20 new T-hangars, a new fuel farm, a new terminal building and entrance road into the airport, an overlay of the main runway and the construction of a new parallel taxiway, the

replacement of the entire runway and taxiway lighting systems, the rehabilitation of the safety areas at the ends of the main runway, and the construction of a security fence completely around the airport. He was also instrumental in the sale of land and development of the industrial park adjacent to the airport.

The Airport Authority is grateful for Mr. Knott's dedication and commitment to the Dinwiddie County Airport and wishes him the best in all of his future endeavors.



**Pictured from left to right are Stonewall Odom, Chris Tavenner, William Knott, Tyler Ragsdale, John V. Mazza, Jr. (Chairman of the Authority), and James Andrews.**

(Zippo-type), electric/battery-powered and novelty lighters.

TSA's mission includes preventing air piracy and use of an airplane as a weapon. TSA prohibits items that may be used to that end from being carried aboard an airplane. The lighter ban will fulfill Congress' intent as expressed in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act and reduce security vulnerabilities, providing one more layer of security for the nation's travelers.

The Department of Transportation

classifies lighters as hazardous materials, and prohibits them from being stowed in checked baggage. TSA will dispose of lighters brought to checkpoints. Passengers at some airports may be able to ship them via a private company for a fee, but TSA strongly urges passengers to thoroughly inspect their carry-on and checked baggage for these items before going to the airport.

For more information regarding TSA, please visit our Web site at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).

## AirTran Airways Announces Newest Destination - Richmond

*Daily nonstop service to/from Atlanta and Philadelphia starts June 23, 2005  
Daily nonstop service to/from Orlando starts November 8, 2005*

AirTran Airways, a subsidiary of AirTran Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: AAI), recently announced the airline will commence new daily nonstop service to Richmond International Airport from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Philadelphia International Airport with continuing service to Boston's Logan International Airport, beginning June 23, 2005. AirTran Airways will also add nonstop service between Richmond and Orlando International Airport beginning November 8, 2005. These

routes will be served by the airline's popular Boeing 717 aircraft with 12 Business Class and 105 coach seats.

"We see an opportunity to bring high-quality, low-fare service to travelers in Richmond, and we're pleased to be able to offer that new option," said Robert L. Fornaro, AirTran Airways' president and chief operating officer. "These flights will provide Richmond with a much needed low-fare option, with nonstop service to Atlanta, Orlando and Philadelphia, as well as convenient connections to more than 40 other destinations across the country with

our all new, all-Boeing fleet."

"The Greater Richmond Region enthusiastically welcomes AirTran Airways to our community," said Capital Region Airport Commission Chairman James B. Donati.

"AirTran's quality service and low fares will provide a great option for Richmond travelers to and from many of our most demanded destinations." AirTran Airways will offer the following new daily nonstop flight

options to/from Richmond starting June 23, 2005.

AirTran Airways, one of America's

largest low-fare airlines with 6,000 friendly, professional Crew Members, operates over 500 daily flights to more than 40 destinations. The airline's hub is at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, where it is the second largest carrier. AirTran Airways recently added the fuel-efficient Boeing 737-700 aircraft to create America's youngest all-Boeing fleet. The airline is also the first carrier to install XM Satellite Radio on a commercial aircraft. For flight options and fares please visit [www.airtran.com](http://www.airtran.com) or [www.flyrichmond.com](http://www.flyrichmond.com).

**AirTran**  
AIRWAYS



Popular Boeing 717 aircraft to serve Richmond routes.

## DOAV recently hosted an Inspections & Renewal Seminar



The Virginia Department of Aviation recently hosted the Inspection & Renewal Seminar for mechanics. The seminar is held through the FAA, with in-service training and refreshers for A & P mechanics. Once the training and the seminar are finished the attendees licenses are renewed. The state hangar was filled



with over 130 attendees for the event.

DOAV Director Randall Burdette and several other DOAV employees were on hand for the seminar and to assist with the training. Special thanks to those who made the event a huge success.



DOAV Director Randy Burdette briefed the audience on some aviation and legislative issues.





## NBAA Applauds Congressional Proposal For Reopening Washington Reagan National Airport to General Aviation

The National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) hailed the introduction of House legislation to grant renewed access to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport for general aviation aircraft operators.

The legislation, H.R. 1496, was introduced today by House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Don Young (R-At Large-AK), Minority Ranking Member Jim Oberstar (D-8-MN), Aviation Subcommittee Chairman John Mica (R-7-FL), Subcommittee Ranking Member Jerry Costello (D-12-IL), and Committee Member Del. Eleanor Holmes-Norton (D-DC). "NBAA thanks the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for adding considerable voice to a growing chorus of support for reopening Washington Reagan National Airport to general aviation," said NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen. "This proposal recognizes that effective security policies can be

developed that strike a balance with economic realities and individual freedoms. That has been NBAA's message all along.

"The business aviation community has long sought policies that enable security-qualified operators to access National Airport," Bolen continued. "This legislation is yet another step in that direction, and we look forward to working with its sponsors to restore access to National Airport in a safe, secure manner."

Founded in 1947, NBAA serves its 7,400 Member Companies by promoting the aviation interests of organizations utilizing business aircraft in the United States and worldwide. The association provides more than 100 products and services to the business aviation community, including the NBAA Annual Meeting & Convention, the world's largest civil aviation trade show. Learn more about NBAA at [www.nbaa.org](http://www.nbaa.org).

(**Secretary** cont. from pg. 2)

I have full confidence he will tackle this expanded role without any disruption to our transportation program," Secretary Clement said. "He was instrumental in winning legislative support this year for the Governor's transportation initiative, which provides historic levels of one-time funding to jump-start promising public-private partnerships, promote greater use of rail and transit, encourage local oversight of road projects and permanently eliminate deficits on completed projects in Virginia's six-year transportation program."

The Secretariat of Transportation has oversight of developing and implementing Virginia's transportation program, including management and budgetary responsibilities for the Departments of Transportation, Motor Vehicles, Aviation, and Rail and Public Transportation as well as for the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board and the Virginia Port Authority. These six agencies employ over 12,000 people with an annual budget in excess of \$3.3 billion. In addition, the Secretary of Transportation serves as Chairman of the Commonwealth Transportation Board.



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Virginia Beach, Virginia

Registration Information will be available in early May.

[www.doav.virginia.gov](http://www.doav.virginia.gov)

Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Aviation, Virginia Aviation Board, Virginia Airport Operators Council, and Virginia Aviation Business Association

# Beacon from Roanoke Regional moved to Virginia Museum of Transportation

At its recent monthly meeting the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission voted to donate the beacon atop the former air traffic control tower to the Virginia Museum of Transportation. Today, the Commission's contractor, Branch Highways, removed the rotating beacon from the building top in preparation for the demolition of the former airport terminal building. The beacon was replaced in December of 2004 with a new light, which is located on top of the Federal Aviation Administration's new nine million dollar air traffic control tower and is visible throughout the Roanoke Valley.

The beacon will now be stored at the Virginia Museum of Transportation in anticipation of the opening of a new aviation gallery

currently under development. "The Airport Commission believes this is the perfect home for the beacon which guided pilots to Roanoke Airport airfield for many years. It is a symbol of the Roanoke Regional Airport, Woodrum Field, as well as our community's fine aviation history. We look forward to seeing it on display in the new aviation gallery along with other artifacts the Commission donated from the former terminal building," stated Executive Director, Jacqueline Shuck.

Although not the original beacon, it sat at the apex of the former terminal building, which

housed airport, airline and Federal Aviation Administration operations from 1952 – 1989. With the exception of the air traffic control tower operations and personnel, the former terminal building has been vacant since 1989 and is being demolished to make room for future airport development.



If you are interested in learning more about what is going on in the Department of Aviation, please call our office at (804) 236-3624 or our Sponsor Hotline at (800) 292-1034. Visit our website for updates on future events at: [www.doav.virginia.gov](http://www.doav.virginia.gov).



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Purpose: "To foster aviation as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with Federal government and other groups in research, development and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states."